

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
ACDA-07 NASA-01 OES-06 OMB-01 IO-13 /086 W
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R 271717Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5122
USMISSION USBERLIN
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 01636

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV PINT PFOR PORS WB GW
SUBJECT: PROPOSED MEETING IN BERLIN OF ABC COMMISSION

REFS: (A) BONN 18811; (B) USBER 2384; (C) USBER 2315
ALL 1976

1. IN JANUARY 25 BONN GROUP MEETING, FRG RETURNED TO THE QUESTION OF A POSSIBLE MEETING IN BERLIN OF THE FRG COMMISSION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE CIVIL POPULATION AGAINST ATOMIC, BIOLOGICAL, AND CHEMICAL ATTACKS (ABC COMMISSION). AS NOTED IN PARA 2, REF (A), FRG REP (HENZE) HAD UNDERTAKEN TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON THE PROPOSED MEETING AFTER US REP HAD BROUGHT IT TO HIS ATTENTION AND AFTER ALLIED REPS HAD EXPRESSED MISGIVINGS ON THE SUBJECT.

2. REPORTING ON THE BASIS OF INFORMATION FROM THE FEDERAL INTERIOR MINISTRY, FRG REP (VON ARNIM)
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DESCRIBED THE ABC COMMISSION AS AN ADVISORY BODY ASSOCIATED WITH THE INTERIOR MINISTRY AND MADE UP OF EXPERTS FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND UNIVERSITIES. THE COMMISSION STUDIES QUESTIONS POSED BY THE INTERIOR MINISTRY, ON MATTERS SUCH AS EFFECTS OF RADIOACTIVE FALLOUT, PROTECTION ACCORDING TO DIFFERENT TYPES OF BUILDINGS, MEDICAL PROBLEMS

FROM DISEASES OR INJURIES IN CATASTROPHES,
PHARMACOLOGY, HUMAN REACTION UNDER STRESS, ETC. VON
ARNIM STRESSED THAT THE SPECTRUM OF RESEARCH INTERESTS
OF THE COMMISSION WAS BROAD AND OF A PURELY
HUMANITARIAN CHARACTER. RESEARCH ON WEAPONS AND
MILITARY MATTERS WAS NOT DONE BY THE COMMISSION.

3. HITCH (UK) COMMENTED THAT THE BODY STILL HAD A
MOST UNFORTUNATE NAME.

4. COMMENT: WE HAD ASSUMED, GIVEN THE LAPSE OF TIME
AND THE ALLIED (PARTICULARLY FRENCH) MISGIVINGS
EXPRESSED IN BONN GROUP ON NOVEMBER 2, THAT THE
POSSIBILITY OF AN ABC COMMISSION MEETING IN BERLIN HAD
QUIETLY DISAPPEARED BENEATH THE SURFACE NEVER TO
EMERGE AGAIN. IT APPEARS, HOWEVER, THAT THE GERMANS
DID NOT TAKE THE HINT AND A MORE FORMAL ALLIED
TURNDOWN WILL HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED, UNLESS IN FACT
ALLIED MISSIONS IN BERLIN HAVE ALREADY SAID NO,
PARA 3, REF (B), AND THE WORD HAS BEEN SLOW IN FILTER-
ING BACK TO FRG OFFICIALS IN BONN. IN ANY CASE,
WE NOW PLAN TO DISCUSS THE MATTER HERE TRIPARTITELY.
END COMMENT.

5. FOR USBER: HAVE MISSIONS ALREADY GIVEN THE
SENAT A NEGATIVE REPLY ON THE MEETING? STOESSEL

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